



May 24, 2020

Seventh Sunday of Easter/ Ascension Sunday

9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

America the Beautiful

~ S. Ward
Keith Ciccone & Valerie Johnson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT *Thy Word Is a Lamp*

Hymnal, No. 256

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path*

*When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me
And nothing will I fear, as long as you are near, please be near me to the end*

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path*

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Rejoice and sing to God.

We sing of the Risen Christ.

Clap your hands and shout with joy.

We rejoice in the living God.

Celebrate this day.

We celebrate with the Spirit who calls us here.

*HYMN

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Hymnal, No. 2

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**Holy God, as Christ ascended into the heavens, so may our hearts ascend to you.
Open our lives to the fullness of your power, that we may be clothed with power
from on high. Open our eyes to the power of your Presence, that we may behold
the glorious gift of your promised salvation. Help us wait patiently for the
baptism of your Spirit, that we may be found worthy of your great gifts. Amen.**

*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

* Indicates all who are able may stand

ANTHEM

Blest Are They

~ D. Haas
Keith Ciccone & Valerie Johnson

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1:6-14

SERMON

“To the Ends of the Earth”

Pastor Suzy Aja Burba

MUSIC RESPONSE

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

HYMN

Blessed Assurance

Hymnal, No. 359

INVITATION TO OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures, here, below.
Praise Him, above, ye heav’nly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

With joy, we bring our gifts. With joy, we offer our lives. May the offering of our gifts and our very selves bring joy throughout the world. Amen.

*HYMN

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Hymnal, No. 155

SERENITY PRAYER

~ Reinhold Niebuhr

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time, accepting hardships as the pathway to peace, taking as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it, trusting that he will make all things right if I surrender to his will; that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with him forever in the next. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Battle Hymn of the Republic

~ J.W. Howe
Keith Ciccone, piano





Following worship, please join us for Remote Coffee Hour:

Time: May 24, 2020 @ approximately 10:30 AM

<https://zoom.us/j/8549377165?pwd=QmRBUXh5TTdrV0l6VGovNEZWRFcwUT09>

Meeting ID: 854 937 7165 Password: FCC1707

OR Dial in: +1 929 205 6099 US (no video) Meeting ID: 854 937 7165 Password: 604514

Thank you for viewing this Service of Worship from First Congregational Church.

Worship will remain *online only* until further notice.

About Today's Service:

- * This worship service was recorded on Saturday, May 23, 2020,
- * Special thanks to videographer, director and editor **Glenn Holton** who is responsible for our online worship videos.
- * Please join us at approximately 10:30 am (following the conclusion of the online worship service) for a **“remote coffee hour” zoom meeting**



Do you receive the **weekly email** from First Church?

If not, email Deb at office@firstchurchbraintree.com to get added to the list. In addition to important church announcements, some of the weekly features are “Silver Linings”, “Pastoral Reflections”, “How We are Passing the Time” (photos sent in by members & friends of what they are doing to stay sane), “Where Am I?”, Inspirational Quote of the Week, Comics and more!

Our worship services are also broadcast (with a week's delay) on BCAM on Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. & Sundays at 10 a.m. Tune to your Public BCAM channel on Comcast Channel 9 or Verizon Channel 28.



First Church Office Hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00am-1:00pm.

To reach us, please call 781-843-3616 and LEAVE A BRIEF MESSAGE. Even if we are not physically in the office, we will be retrieving messages during regular office hours and will get back to you. Or send an email to: office@firstchurchbraintree.com or Pastor Michael: pastormichael@firstchurchbraintree.com.

Thank you to all who have sent in weekly pledges and extra donations. Your support is very much appreciated! Pledges may be sent using your pledge envelopes and either mailing them or dropping them in the office mailbox (slot in the door on the side of the church near the garden). Or, if you wish, you may donate using the PayPal link at the top of our webpage.



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